

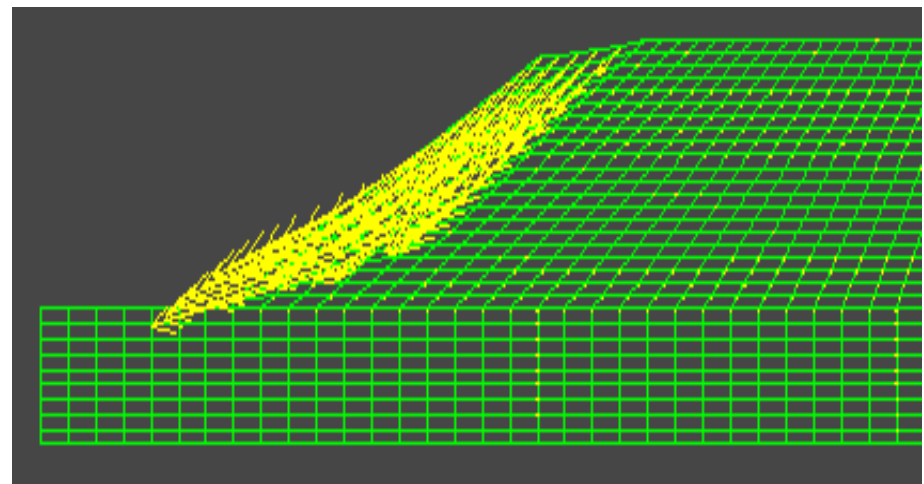
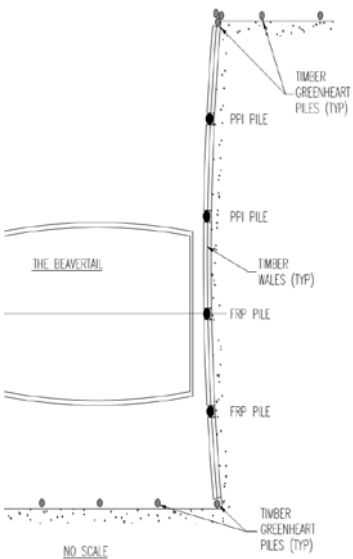
# OCE 101

## Introduction to Geotechnical Engineering

**CHRISTOPHER D. P. BAXTER**

**MARCH 11, 2010**

# Introduction

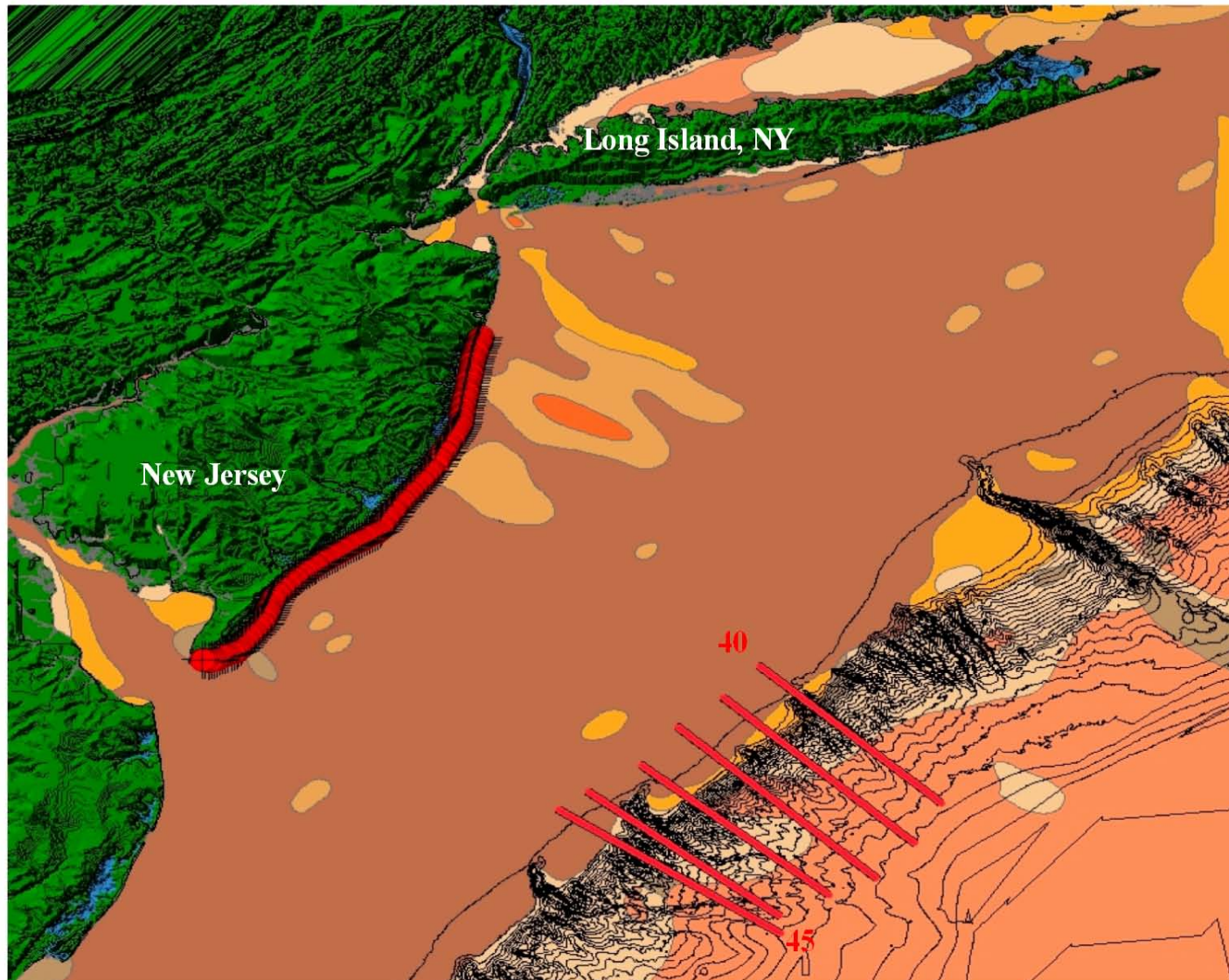


# Recent Projects

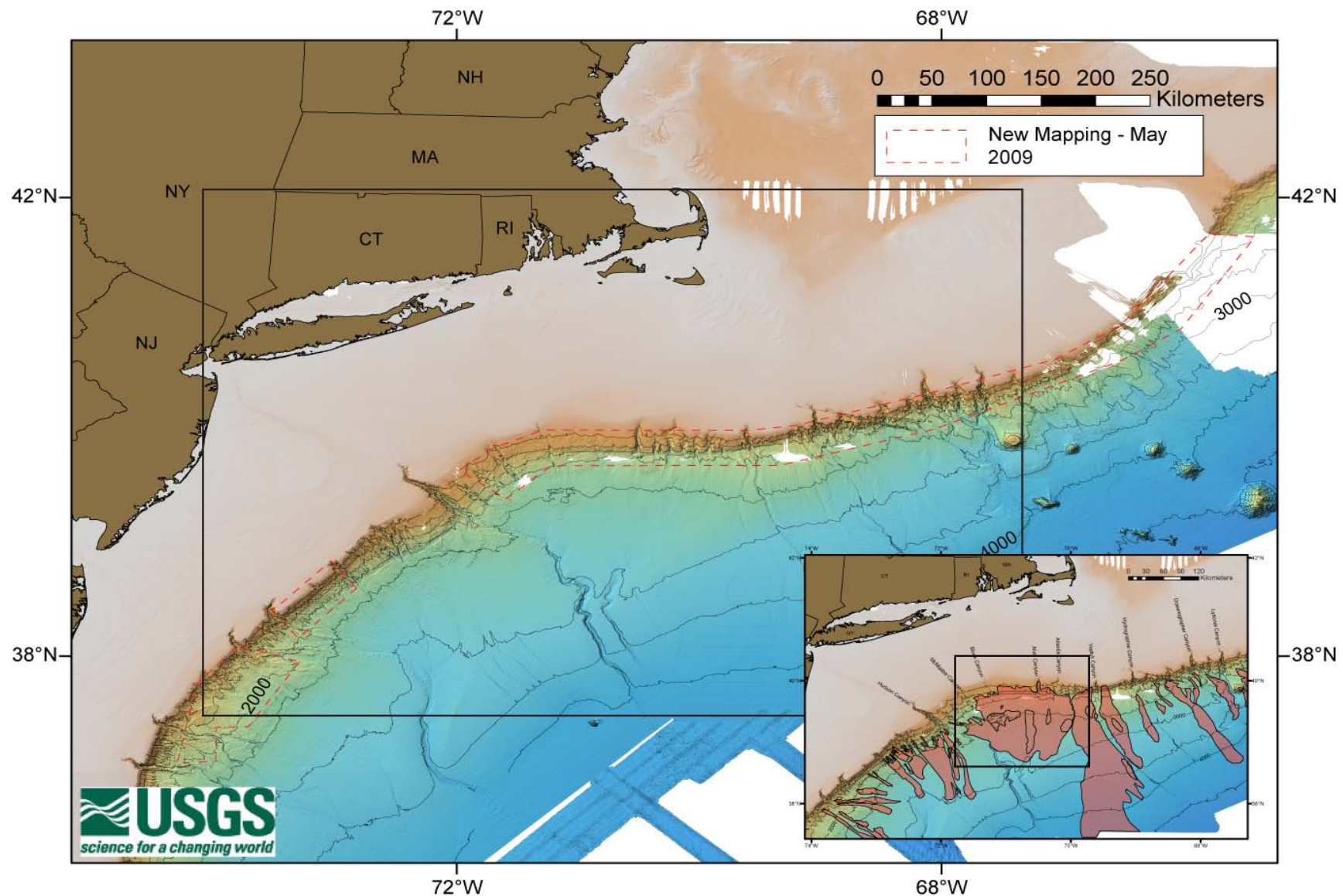
- Technology assessment for offshore wind energy (RI Energy Office)
- Behavior of weakly cemented, oil-bearing sands (BP America, Inc.)
- Liquefaction potential of silts using shear wave velocity (RIDOT)
- Influence of gas bubbles on the undrained strength of clays (Norwegian Geotechnical Institute)
- Probabilistic Approach for Determining Submarine Landslide Tsunami Hazard along the Upper East Coast of the United States (FM Global, Inc.)



# Investigation of Submarine Landslides along the New England Margin with Implications to Tsunami Hazards

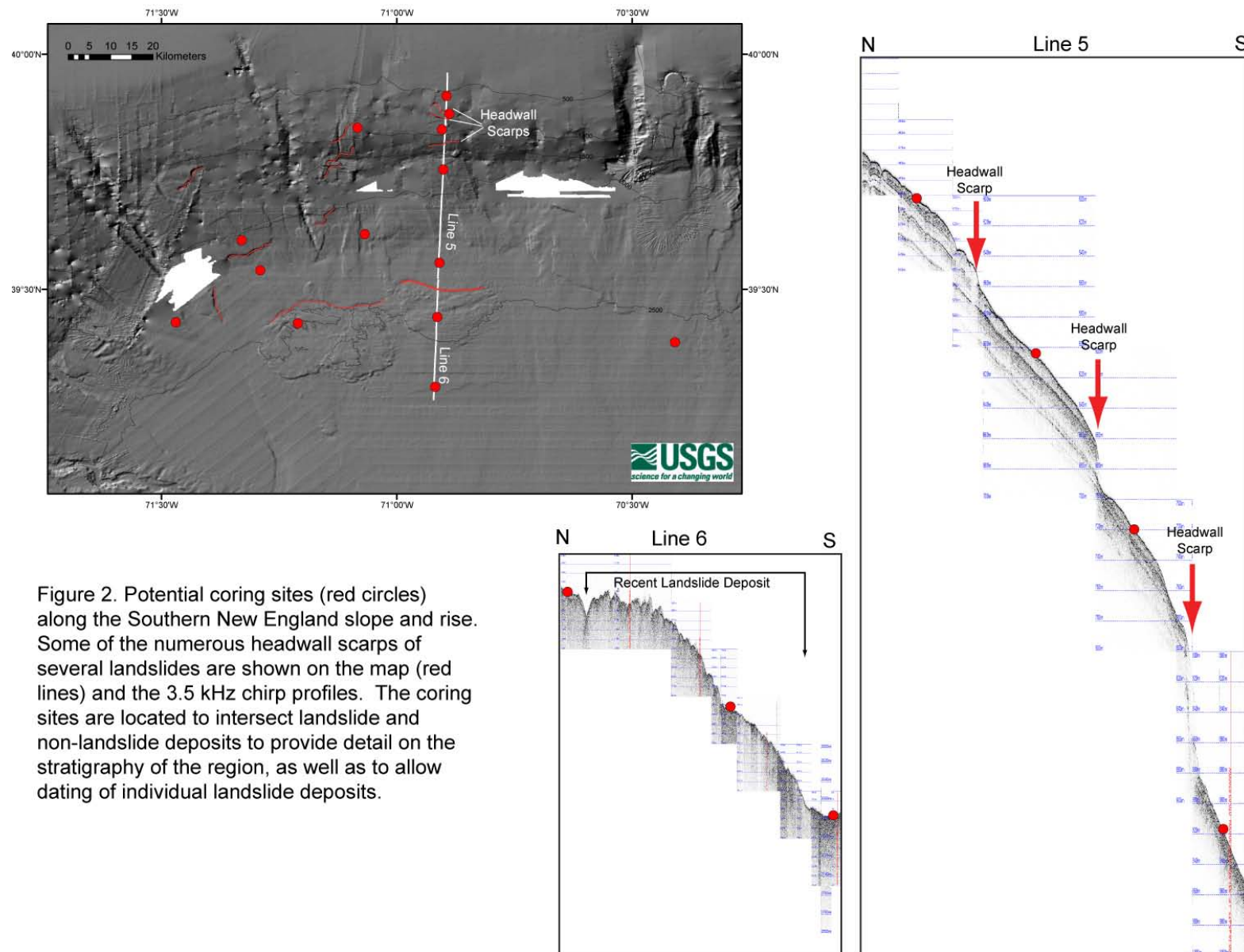


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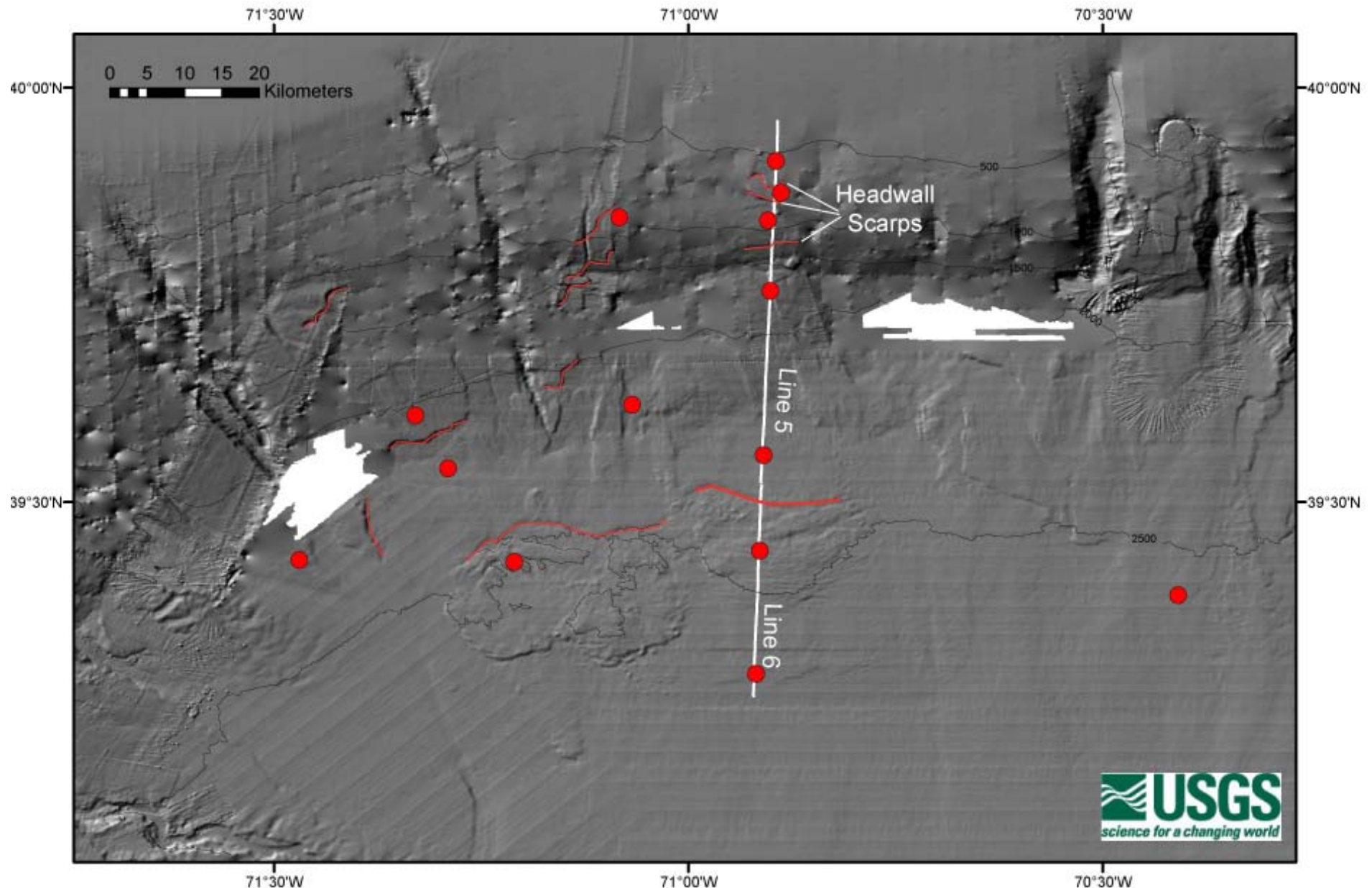




# Investigation of Submarine Landslides along the New England Margin with Implications to Tsunami Hazards



# Investigation of Submarine Landslides along the New England Margin with Implications to Tsunami Hazards



# What is Geotechnical Engineering?



# What is Geotechnical Engineering?

- ◆ Design and construction
- ◆ Mitigation of hazard risk
- ◆ Provision of infrastructure
- ◆ Natural resource recovery and utilization
- ◆ Environmental protection and enhancement

# Design and Construction



Waterplace, Providence, RI  
GZA Geoenvironmental, Inc. (2004)



# Design and Construction



Silver Springs Home Depot, Providence (2002)

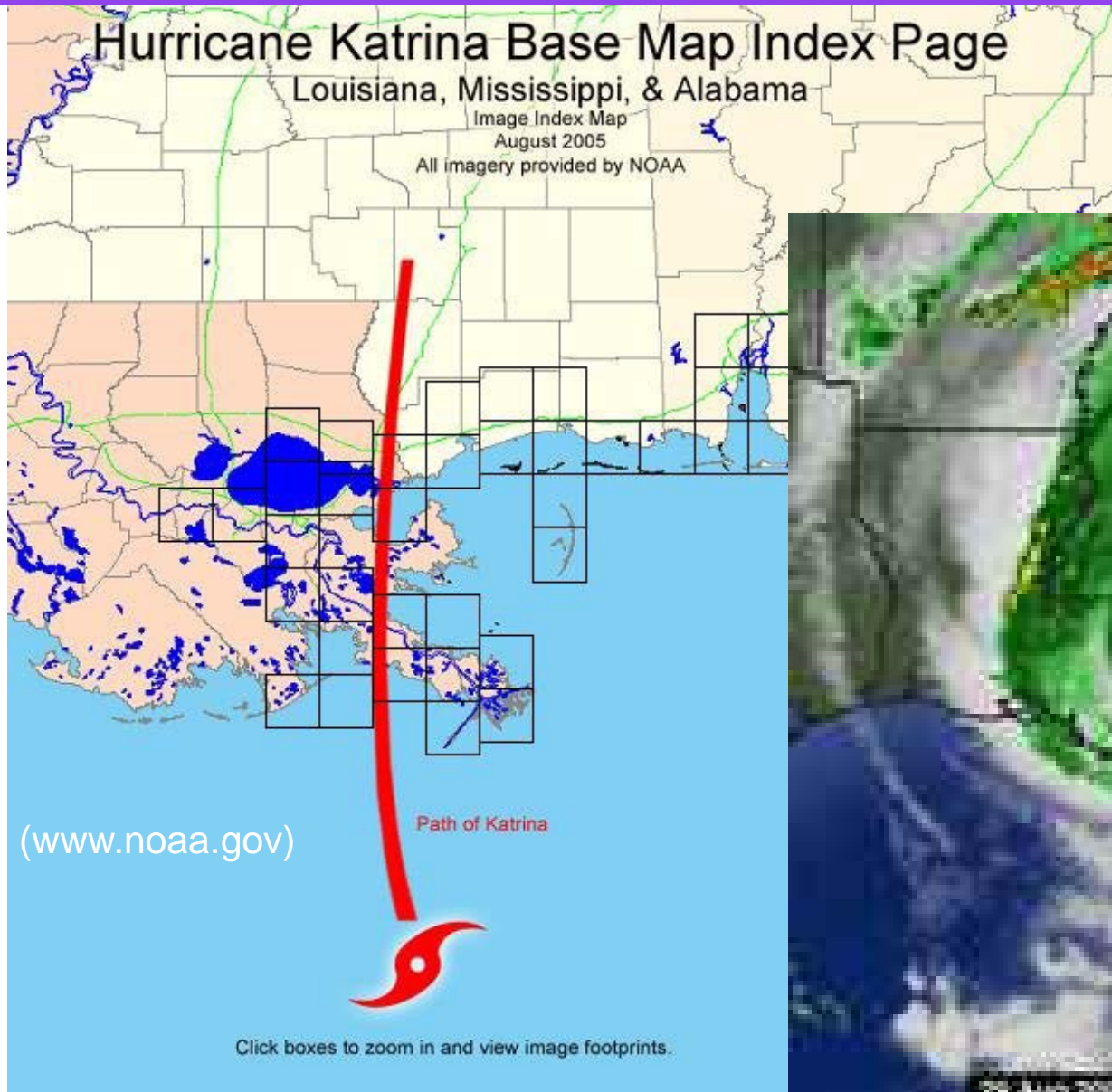


# Design and Construction



Bulkhead Repair, Newport (2001)

# Hazard Mitigation



Path of Hurricane Katrina (category 3)





# LAST LINE OF DEFENSE: HOPING THE LEVEES HOLD

*Army Corps of Engineers officials say hurricane levees in the New Orleans area will protect residents from a Category 3 hurricane moving rapidly over the area. But computer models indicate even weaker storms could find chinks in that armor.*

## BARRIERS OF EARTH AND CONCRETE

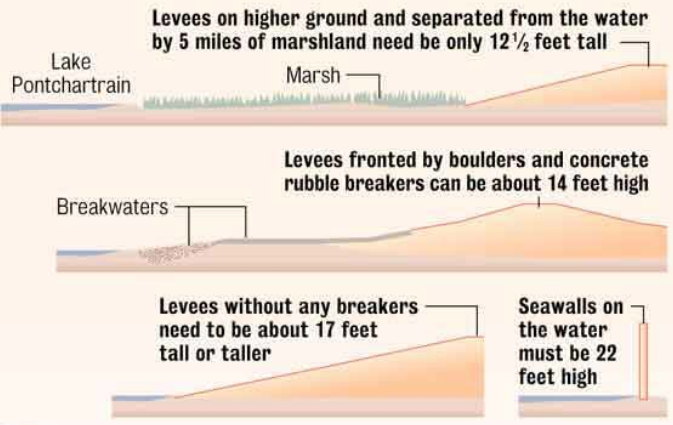
Levees and floodwalls that protect against flooding from both the Mississippi River and hurricanes are built by the Army Corps of Engineers and are maintained by local levee districts. The corps and the local districts share the construction cost of hurricane levees, while the Mississippi River levees are a federal project. Local levee districts also build and maintain nonfederal, lower-elevation levees with construction money from each district's share of property taxes and state financing.

- LEVEES AND FLOODWALLS**
- Mississippi River
  - Hurricane protection
  - Interior parish

Notes: Levee and floodwall elevations are drawn with an extremely exaggerated vertical height but are in proportion to each other. Numbers on specific sections represent average heights in feet above sea level.

### HEIGHT ISN'T EVERYTHING

Different factors permit Lake Pontchartrain levees of varying elevations to withstand an 11½-foot storm surge plus several feet of waves:



Note: The height and shape of a levee is based on the roughness of the area over which waves pass to reach the structure, and the slope of the structure.

### THE LEVEE SYSTEM:

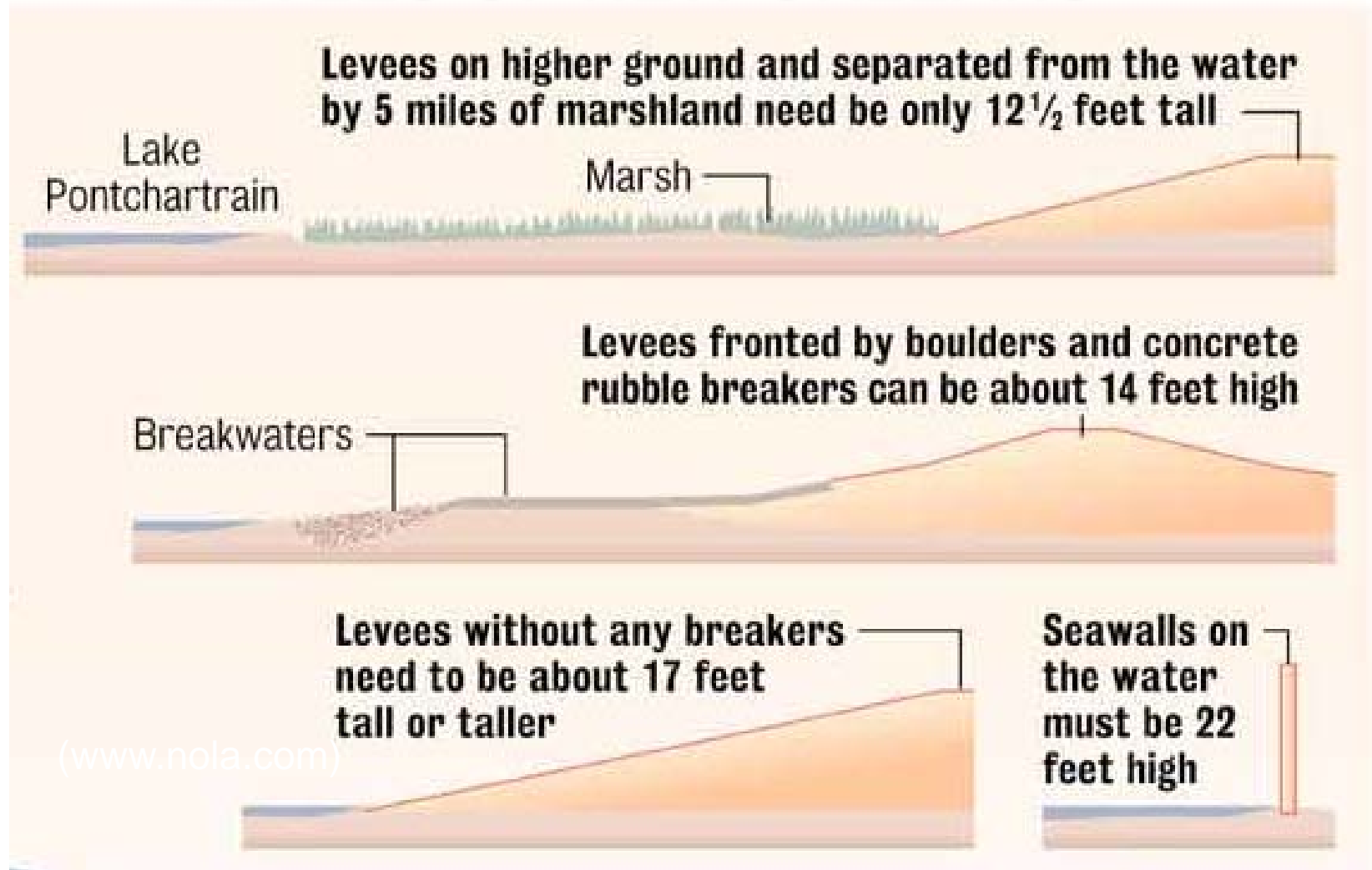


(www.nola.com, 2005)



# Hazard Mitigation

## LEVEES OF NEW ORLEANS

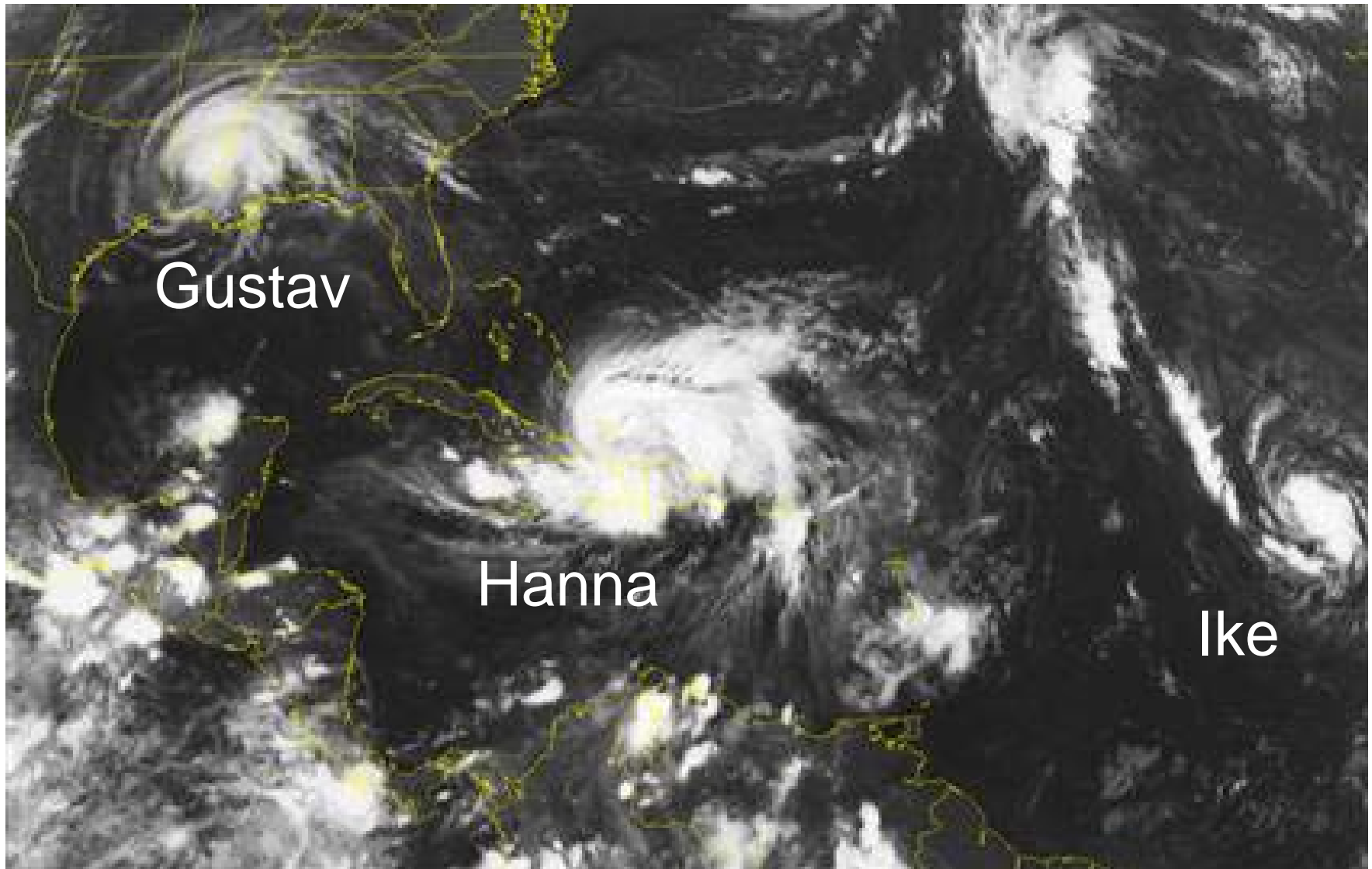


# Hazard Mitigation

## LEVEES OF NEW ORLEANS, HURRICANE KATRINA



# Hazard Mitigation







 <http://www.wdsu.com/slideshow/weather/17358347/detail.html>

# HURRICANE GUSTAV



Water from the industrial canal laps over the levee as Hurricane Gustav strikes the Gulf Coast September 1, 2008 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Gustav made landfall as a Category 2 storm near



<http://www.wdsu.com/slideshow/weather/17358347/detail.html>

# HURRICANE GUSTAV



Water sloshes over the side of a levee on Industrial Canal in New Orleans, Louisiana, September 1, 2008.





<http://www.wdsu.com/slideshow/weather/17358347/detail.html>

# HURRICANE GUSTAV



Water splashes over the side of a levee on the Industrial Canal in New Orleans, Louisiana, on September 1, 2008 due to Hurricane Gustav. A new tropical depression formed in the central





# Infrastructure

## Providence River Dredging Project



# Natural resource recovery and utilization



Molikpaq



Molikpaq



# Natural Resource Recovery and Utilization



Reference Installation - Offshore Wind Farm Samsø, Denmark (2002)



Reference Installation - Offshore Wind Farm Samsø, Denmark (2002)

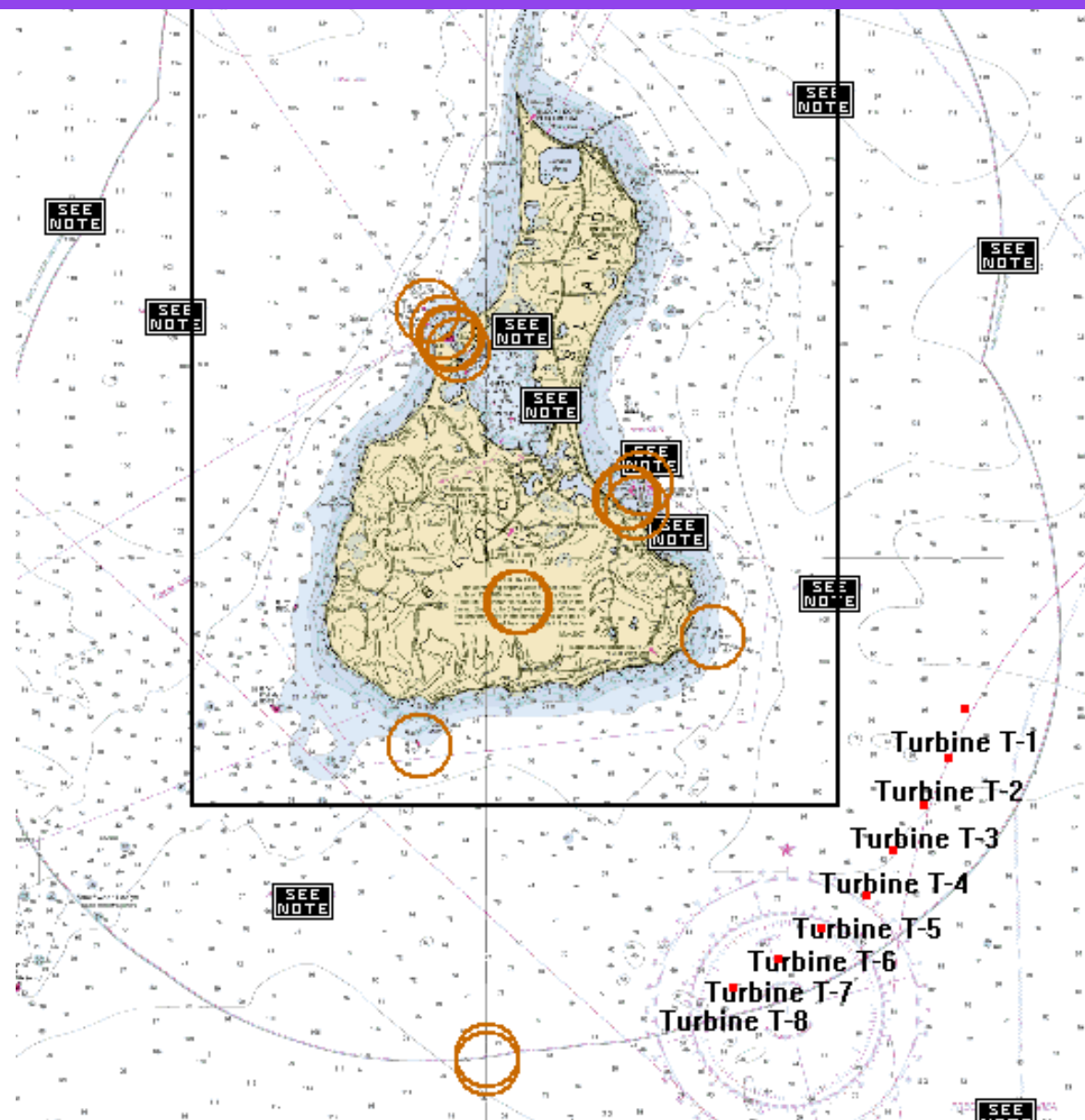
# Why Geotechnical Engineering is Important

- ◆ Everything built on, in, or with the earth
- ◆ Soil is the most abundant construction material
- ◆ Most resources from the earth
- ◆ Waste disposal on and in the earth



# Onshore Wind Construction



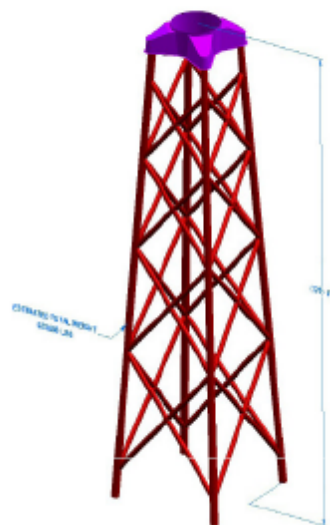




# Deep Water Wind Jacket

## Typical Parameters

- *Next Generation foundation*
- *Suitable for larger turbines*
- *Pile Diameters to 6 feet (2M)*
- *Lengths to 164 feet (50-60M)*
- *Used in deeper water farther offshore*
- *Suitable for use in depths to 150'(M)*
- *Installed by driving with standard hammer*
- *Some drilling required in harsh seabed*
- *Standard Geo-tech empirical testing*
- *3 Piling options: Thru legs, skirt piles or pre-piled thru template*



The DWW Jacket















# Future

- Block Island Wind Farm Project -20 MW
- Utility Scale Rhode Island Project - 385 MW

